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"OLD TIPPECANOE."

BY W. H. MYERS.

ON last Decoration Day, when the whole country was paying its homage to the dead heroes, I visited the tomb of General William Henry Harrison, at North Bend, Ohio, and was grieved at the lack of attention this great man received.

Here was the grave of the ninth President of the United States—the great warrior who whipped that cunning Indian leader, Tecumseh, at Tippecanoe, and forever broke up the Indian depredations in this territory.

There were no flowers, not even a flag, until the writer placed a small one in a crevice of his old-fashioned brick vault.

It is a shame that this once beautiful spot should be so sadly neglected and forgotten.

The old vault is fast falling into decay. It is overgrown with rank weeds, that are not even cut. Surely such is not a fitting resting place for a President of the United States—a great Indian fighter—a governor of the great Northwest Territory—the man who made it possible for the white settlers to remain in this territory.

This tomb is located on a commanding knoll at North Bend, Ohio, in full view of the site of his famous old "Log Cabin" residence. It is an ideal place for a magnificent monument that would commemorate this great man, but here it is practically neglected and uncared for, seemingly forgotten.

Unless you were acquainted, you would not know who rested therein. There is not a single mark on the tomb so to indicate.

As a boy I always had a great deal of admiration for "Old Tippecanoe," and how my boyish heart would swell with pride when the steamboats on the Ohio river would salute as they passed by. It has always been my wish and desire to see his burial place surmounted by a suitable monument, but it would appear that the country has entirely forgotten him.

Is it time that the people of the United States be advised of this

state of affairs and brought to a proper realization of the debt they owe General Harrison, particularly the people of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

This historical spot should be preserved. Many others with not half the wealth of history have been taken in hand by the government and societies, but this one remains unnoticed.

Close by this tomb was established the first settlement between the Miami rivers, in the great Symmes Purchase. Symmes City was founded in 1788 by Judge John Cleves Symmes, who purchased the territory between the two Miami rivers.

Just to the west is that famous old landmark, Old Fort Hill, with its ancient fortifications, erected long before the Indian, at the mouth of the Great Miami.

Just to the east, along Indian Creek, are the ruins of the first grist mill erected in this territory.

Along the brows of the adjacent hills are the remains of the immense apple and peach orchards set out by General Harrison.

This, the scene of many a bitter battle between the white settlers and the wily red man, seems to have been forgotten entirely; all over the country we see historic spots made into parks, yet this passes neglected.

The commanding site of this old tomb could not be better adapted for a fitting tribute to the memory of “Old Tippecanoe.” It is a beautiful knoll, were it put in shape, with the broad Ohio river at the foot. Here the river makes a grand sweep to the south. Standing on this knoll, you can see up this beautiful valley for five miles, and down the river for two miles. It is one of the most picturesque spots I have ever had the pleasure of viewing. It is within easy distance of Cincinnati, and can be reached by electric trolley and two railroads. It would be an ideal place for a national park.

President Harrison rests in a common brick vault with a rusty iron door, with several members of his family, one of them being John Scott Harrison, his son, the father of Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States, but there is not a single thing to inform the public that he lies within.

Near by, in the “Old Congress Green,” lie the remains of Judge

John Cleves Symmes and other members of President Harrison's family.

To the east stood the famous "Log Cabin" of General Harrison. Some of the old orchard trees are still standing, and the writer picked a green pear from one of them recently. To the north, in the present limits of the village of Cleves, are the remains of the mansion of Judge Symmes, facing the Great Miami river.

General Harrison stood high in the esteem of his countrymen. The Legislature of Kentucky, after the battle of Tippecanoe, passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That Governor Harrison had behaved like a hero, a patriot and general, and that for his cool, deliberate, skillful and gallant conduct in the battle of Tippecanoe, he well deserves the thanks of the nation."

General Harrison was distinguished by a generosity and liberal feeling. With ample opportunity for amassing immense wealth, he disdained to use his public situations for private emolument. He was too rigidly honest to permit himself to engage in speculation, and his chivalry was too sensitive to permit him to use the time belonging to his country for private benefit. After nearly fifty years' devotion to his duties, for the good of his country, he left at his death but little more to his family than the inheritance of an unsullied reputation.

Why then should not the people of this great and glorious nation, for whom he devoted his life, remember him in a fitting manner? It has built magnificent monuments to less deserving.